EDUCATION AND PICTOU ACADEMY.

"AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM."

PICTOU ACADEMY.

MAY 15*th*, 1854.

THE Trustees met after special notice, present A. P. ROSS; JAMES DAWSON; A. GORDON; JAMES FRASER, New Glasgow; JAMES CRICHTON; HUGH H. ROSS; PETER CREBAR; J. D. B. FRASER; ALEXANDER FRASER, Middle River; and WILLIAM J. ANDERSON, when the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

1st. That the Board having had under consideration the section of the appropriation Act which refers to Pictou Academy, find, that it contains the following passage, "The Grant to Pictou Acad[illegible] to be on condition, that no sale or Mortgage of the lands or property vested in the Trustees thereof, shall be made after the passing of this Act." And having reason to know that this was inserted owing to misrepresentations and misapprehensions of the conduct of the Board, and the real state of the Academy, but viewing it at the same time as a direct impeachment of their integrity and capacity, cannot consent to accept the Grant on a condition so unjust and humiliating, but feel confident that on being in possession of the true state of the case, the Legislature at its next sitting, will authorise the Board to draw the Grant, without their being subjected to a condition so obnoxious.

2nd. That the Board having a surplus revenue in the years 1845, 6, 7, as intimated in their several reports to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, did for safety and greater benefit to the Academy invest said surplus in the purchase and improvement of a cottage and lot of land adjoining the Academy, as was stated in due course in their report for that year, and in subsequent reports and having also expended in the repair and improvement of the Library and Apparatus a further sum of not less than £250, consider that the giving a mortgage in 1853 for £100, only for carrying out the purposes of the Academy was a simple resumption of a portion of their surplus fence, invested as aforesaid.

3rd. That no necessity would have existed, and that the Board had no intention to sell or mortgage any property belonging to the Corporation, had it not been for the conditions annexed to the Grant for the current year; but that they are now under the necessity, and do hereby authorise the Secretary under the direction of the Committee, to raise by sale, mortgage, or otherwise, such sums as may be necessary for defraying in the meantime, the current expenses of the Institution.

4th. That His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor be respectfully memorialized to appoint a visitor or visitors, under the IX section of the Academy Act; and that the Committee be instructed to prepare from the records in their possession, a history of the Academy from its foundation to the present time, for accompanying the Annual Report and for publication in a pamphlet form for the information of the public.

By order of the Board,
WM. JAS. ANDERSON,
Secy. Pictou Academy.

"From an earnest wish that there should be a more general diffusion of knowledge in Nova-Scotia, a number of Presbyterians, *and others capable of prizing its advantages*, obtaining the cordial concurrence of their excellent Governor, Sir John Coape Sherbrooke, organized a Society for the purpose of founding a Seminary, to dispense *education free from restrictions*. The members of the society petitioned the Legislature for an Act of Incorporation; and in 1816, the House of Assembly passed a Bill for that purpose, *without any allusion to religious peculiarities*.' This is the language used by Mr. Jotham Blanchard, in behalf, and by authority of the Trustees of the Pictou Academy, in his memorial to the Colonial Secretary, Lord Goderich. The Bill alluded to, in the handwriting of the late Mr E. Mortimer is in the possession of the present Board; and it especially declares, "That no bye-law, rule, or regulation shall be made by the said Trustees, *by which any religious distinction shall be set up*." The Legislative Council, however, introduced amendments, confining the offices of Trustee, and teacher to members of the Church of England, or of the Presbyterian religion, and to these amendments the Assembly thought it expedient to assent:

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In 1818, the trustees prayed His Excellency, Lord Dalhousie, "To recommend a grant of money from *the public funds of the Province, to assist in erecting a suitable building*, or for such other purposes as might be necessary in establishing the said Academy;" and on the 11th March, His Excellency sent down the following message to the Assembly:—"The institution of an Academy at Pictou, appears to me, to promise advantages of education highly valuable to the whole Eastern part of this Province; and I therefore recommend the accompanying petition of the trustees of that Academy to your favorable consideration."

A grant of £500 was immediately passed by the Assembly, with only four dissentients; but the council refused concurrence.

On his return from the Legislature in the same year, Mr Edward Mortimer, delivered a speech to the *first* students of the Pictou Academy, in presence of many of its friends. He detailed the steps taken by the trustees to bring the Academy into operation. He alluded to the subscription *then* being raised in the district of Pictou. He also spoke as follows:—"I spent two days in Halifax after the Assembly was prorogued, during which very short time, accompanied and cheerfully assisted by a brother Trustee, Jas Forman, Esq., we obtained in the most handsome and liberal manner, from our friends in the capital, donations amounting to nearly £1000."

On referring to the *two original* subscription lists, containing the subscriptions mentioned by Mr Mortimer, the Pictou one shews subscriptions amounting to £779; the subscribers with three or four exceptions, being members of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.—Of this sum, there were collected but £538 12s. 2d. as under: From

1. Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.	£500	2	2
2. Kirk of Scotland,	30	0	0
3. Church of England,	5	0	0
4. " " Rome.	3	10	0
Total,	£538	12	2

The Halifax list amounted to £637 10s.—of which there were collected £597 13., as follows: from the Governor and Council £52 10s.—from the residents of the town £538 3s 2d.—and the balance from strangers. The different Religious Denominations contributed as under:

1 Church of Scotland,	£277	3	10
2 " " England,	255	10	0
3 " " Rome,	26	10	0
4 Methodists,	16	10	0
5 Presbyterian Ch. of N. S.	13	10	0
6 Baptists " "	5	10	0
7 Quakers " "	2	0	0
8 Sandimanians "	1	0	0
Total,	£597	13	0

The analysis of the lists, was made by the aid of a gentleman to whom the parties subscribing are well known.—*With the Money thus subscribed and collected*, and with an additional sum of £500 *granted by the Legislature in* 1819, the trustees were enabled to proceed with the building, and to import through the agency of Mr G. Smith, Philosophical apparatus to the amount of £200.—Of the seven members of Council who subscribed, five were members of the Church of England, and two of the Kirk of Scotland. Lord Dalhousie himself was peculiarly attached to the Kirk of Scotland his motive for subscribing, will be best understood by an extract from a letter in his own writing, addressed to Mr E. Mortimer, on the 12th March, 1819.—"I have expressed my full approbation and consent to the establishment of an Academy at Pictou for the education of the youth in that Eastern portion of the Province."

In 1819, the trustees were successful in their application, and obtained as has been already shown, a grant of £500; and in compliance with their annual petition, grants were made in 1820, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, amounting in all to the sum of £2,100.

In 1825, the trustees also petitioned "*to be relieved from tests, for an enlargement of powers, and a permanent endowment.*" Drafts of the several petitions presented, in the handwriting of Dr McCulloch are on file; and the burthen of them all may be judged of from the first, from which the following extract is taken:—

"But your memorialists would respectfully represent, that by the unnecessary tests to which they are subjected, the Pictou Academy labors under disadvantages, *which impede its success, and counteract the* [illegible] *established.*"

In 1825, the [illegible] tees of the A[illegible] meeting, were [illegible] rity of the Bo[illegible] minutes, whic[illegible] of Mr Jotham [illegible] of the Board, [illegible] McCulloch sa[illegible] very powerful [illegible] for making a [illegible] congregation [illegible] the Academy [illegible] gations spring [illegible] connected wit[illegible] belonged. Th[illegible] identified the[illegible] him with the [illegible] member, and [illegible] like to that C[illegible] evil inclined [illegible] such distinct[illegible] dictated. F[illegible] considered it [illegible] to the Presby[illegible] *and he now wi[illegible] stood by the m[illegible] generally, tha[illegible] Provincial in[illegible] particular pri[illegible] equally free t[illegible] tions of Chris[illegible] rive equal adv[illegible]*

In this ye[illegible] the minutes [illegible] tition from t[illegible] in their opin[illegible] the interests [illegible] forwarded to[illegible] then adminis[illegible] is also appar[illegible] difficulty wh[illegible] enced, in obt[illegible] Legislature, [illegible] them to seek[illegible] ly, the follo[illegible] cord: Resol[illegible] be paid £10[illegible] this year, [illegible] that he go t[illegible] at the expen[illegible] moting its i[illegible]

In 1826 th[illegible] the Legislat[illegible] annual mee[illegible] Academy at[illegible] 1827. An a[illegible] drawn up [illegible]

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counteract the very ends for which it was established."

In 1825, the proceedings of the trustees of the Academy, at their annual meeting, were published by the authority of the Board. From the original minutes, which are in the handwriting of Mr Jotham Blanchard, then Secretary of the Board, we copy as follows, Dr McCulloch said: "There was another very powerful inducement which he had for making a total separation of the congregation in which he labored, and the Academy; there are other congregations springing up in the district not connected with the Synod to which he belonged. The persons composing these, identified the Academy with him, and him with the Church of which he was a member, and in manifesting their dislike to that Church, the unthinking or evil inclined part of them, did not make such distinctions as reason would have dictated. For these reasons he had considered it his duty to surrender up to the Presbytery his ministerial charge, *and he now wished it to be perfectly understood by the meeting, and by the community generally, that the Pictou Academy was a Provincial institution, connected with no particular principles of religion. It was equally free to all classes and denominations of Christians, and they could all derive equal advantages if they chose.*"

In this year, it would appear from the minutes of the Trustees, that a petition from the County of Pictou, which in their opinion had injuriously affected the interests of the Academy, had been forwarded to His Honor the President then administering the government. It is also apparent, that from the increased difficulty which they annually experienced, in obtaining their grant from the Legislature, they felt it incumbent on them to seek aid elsewhere: accordingly, the following resolutions are on record: Resolved, "That Dr McCulloch be paid £100 above his usual salary for this year, ending 1st May next, and that he go to Britain the ensuing spring at the expense of the Academy for promoting its interests."

In 1826 the usual vote of £400 passed the Legislature. Again there was an annual meeting of the trustees in the Academy at Pictou on the 1st Jany., 1827. An account of this meeting was drawn up by Dr McCulloch and was published in the Acadian Recorder of 27th Jany. The speeches were reported to the same paper by Mr Blanchard on the 24th Feby. The printed papers and the original manuscripts are now before us. The following Resolution as moved by the Rev. Duncan Ross, is in the handwriting of Dr McCulloch.

"1. That as the Pictou Academy *was not intended to be a Sectarian Seminary*, and as contrary to the wish of its trustees, several denominations of Christians in the Province, have been by the Act of incorporation excluded from the office of trustee or teacher, the trustees consider its present constitution *as calculated to disaffect its friends*, and injure its interests, and therefore they will at the ensuing meeting of the Legislature, *renew* their application to be relieved from restrictions, *which by an infringement of natural rights, attach degradation to any deserving class of Her Majesty's subjects.*"

The effect of this resolution was enhanced by the mover, who spoke thus: 'That the Pictou Academy originated among men of the most liberal sentiment, and whose strongest opinion was that knowledge should be free as the light of Heaven. The unjust and monopolizing spirit of King's College had first produced the idea that a Seminary for all denominations of Nova Scotians might be established with honor to the enlightened views and judicious conduct of the government, and also with immense utility to the interests of the province. *Unfortunately the scheme in its progress did not accord with the original plan. There were introduced into the charter, in opposition to the wish of the friends of the institution, restrictive clauses which have not only drawn an unmerited odium upon them, but have proved highly injurious to their interests. The clauses to which he alluded were those which excluded any but Episcopalians or Presbyterians from the office of trustee or teacher. He had been questioned at a distance from Pictau, and blushed to acknowledge the fact.*

Fortunately he had it in his power to palliate the injustice and illiberality of those clauses by stating that the friends of the institution were altogether averse from their introduction, and that no religious peculiarity was ever introduced into the course of instruction. A Catholic or Methodist, Episcopalian or

Baptist, had equal access to all the knowledge which could be obtained at the institution, and might pass through its classes without any enquiry respecting his religious tenets. He hoped soon to see an equal degree of liberality in the admission to offices in the institution. The *exclusive clauses were unjust, unnecessary, impolitic and irreligious;* but he knew there was a sufficiency of sense and liberality among the trustees, and he hoped their application to government would enable them to exterminate such blots from the otherwise fair standing of the institution." Dr McCulloch also spoke as follows:—

"He had lately been in Britain by the appointment of the trustees, for the purpose of laying the state of the institution before the British public. This he had done, and his statements in Scotland met with the most favorable consideration from the highest literary authority. The conductors of the principal periodical works—the Principals and Professors of the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow—the leading clergy of the various religious denominations all patronised his claims. (A list of the names of those gentlemen was then handed in and read.) In Glasgow, a SOCIETY was formed just before he left Scotland to aid in the education of NATIVE PREACHERS at this institution. Its office bearers embraced many highly respectable names, both of the clergy and laity, without reference to sect or party. It was not exclusive in its rules, and the reputation of its friends afforded certainty, that the amount of its usefulness to the institution would not be small, (he then handed in a copy of the Rules and a list of office bearers which was read."

In the session which ensued, the Legislative Council refused concurrence to the annual vote of the Asembly, but assented to a resolution placing £400 at the discretionary disposal of the Governor, for the benefit of the institution.

The Governor appointed a commission, Judge Chipman chairman, to inquire into the state of the institution. The commission met in the Academy; a series of 7 questions had been previously placed in the hands of the commission, by Sir R. D. George, by command of his Excellency; a specific question (No. 3) was put to the trustees, in reference to the connection of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia with the Academy, and the education of Theological Students. The reply is in the handwriting of Dr McCulloch, as follows:

"The trustees would further observe, that the education of these is so conducted, *as to prevent all interference with the funds and general business of the institution.* For this branch of instruction, the teacher's emoluments are derived from those among whom the students are preparing to labor as preachers of the Gospel. Even the Theological library, which has been provided for their improvement, is the result of donations *expressly appropriated by the donors to this use.* The trustees therefore, aware of the charge *of perverting the Academy to sectarian purposes,* which has been urged against them, would be understood, *as expressly stating that no part of the funds* intrusted to their management, *has ever been devoted to the benefit of any individual sect or party.*"

To the favorable report of the commission, the Governor replied, by instantly issuing his warrant for the payment of the £400.

Notwithstanding this, and though the Assembly continued to vote the usual allowance in the years 1828—29—30—1, the votes were negatived by the Council, and during these four years the trustees had to struggle on, wholly dependent on the liberality of their friends.

On the 2nd Feby., 1831, the trustees commissioned "Mr Jotham Blanchard to proceed without delay to London, as agent of the Pictou Academy, and to forward a memorial and petition to the King, with a view to promote its interests." The sum of £250 borrowed from the Halifax Insurance Company was placed in Mr Blanchard's hands, to defray his expenses.

On referring to the statement presented by Mr Blanchard to the Colonial Secretary, it will be found in strict accordance with the testimony now produced. On referring to the printed memorial addressed to the Scottish public in 1831, by Drs Hall, Paxton, and Mitchell, on behalf of the Pictou Academy, we find they say, that it was established "by the cordial co-operation of dissenters of all classes in the colony, consisting of Presbyterians from the

Church of Scotland and the Secession, as well as of Baptists and Methodists, both of whom are numerous and respectable." This statement being backed by the recommendations of the Wesleyan Conference and Baptist associations of Nova Scotia *in session;* also by a certificate of twenty-nine members of the Provincial Parliament of Nova Scotia, representing all denominations, led to the cordial reception of the memorial by *all sects* in Scotland; and on referring to the list of names handed in by Dr McCulloch at the public meeting, we find it contains the names of the most distinguished clergymen and laymen, of the Kirk of Scotland, the Episcopal Church, the Congregationalists, &c., &c.

The several missions of Dr McCulloch and Mr Blanchard produced certain pecuniary grants, which will hereafter be exhibited, in an abstract of the accounts and reports of the trustees of the Academy. The mission of Mr Blanchard also led to a despatch from the Colonial Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor; to communications between His Excellency, the trustees, and certain other parties in Pictou; and was ultimately followed by the revision of the Academy, and the enactment of the Act of 1832.

After the passage of the Bill of 1832, which was for the benefit of "*persons of all denominations of Christians, without distinction of sect,*" and which introduced in addition to the higher branches formerly taught, "all the elementary branches usually taught in grammar schools," and in which, was introduced the restrictive clause in reference to the teaching of divinity, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova-Scotia, took the subject of the Academy into their consideration, and appointed the Revds. John Waddell, Thomas Trotter, Robert Douglass, and John McCurdy, a committee to prepare an address "to the congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Nova-Scotia." The address was printed under the authority of the Synod, and widely circulated; from it we make the following selections:—

"The Academy IS NOT NOR EVER WAS A SECTARIAN INSTITUTION, as its *opponents have sometimes affirmed;* for it is alike open to *all* denominations, and is conducted on the most liberal and conciliatory principles; *and it is for this very reason that we have patronized, and for this very reason we patronize it still.* We would be unworthy the name of Presbyterians, and of having the interests of Presbyterians entrusted to us, did we not endeavor to place education on a liberal and respectable footing; and diffuse a taste as extensively as possible through that community of which Presbyterians form an important part." "A liberal education is becoming indispensable for all those offices of power and trust, which our continually increasing population and advancing wealth, are daily multiplying and calling into existence; and if such an education is slighted or despised by any denomination, that denomination, whatever may be its numbers, must soon take its station in the rear; and permit others to seize on the front, together with the honor and advantage attached to it." "It is altogether a false idea that the Academy is only a *local institution.* It is intended, and as much calculated for the *general good,* as any institution of the kind can be, under similar circumstances." "The circumstance that the Academy possesses the means of affording a scientific education, gives a peculiar claim on the support of Presbyterians. On account of the known and acknowledged tendency of science above all other branches of education, to enlarge the mind, invigorate its powers, and free it from the influence of bigotry and superstition." "Now if Pictou Academy be not kept, we must either lay aside one of the most useful preparations for the ministry, or be contented to depend on other countries for religious instruction." "In the endowment of nature, the youth of the province are not inferior to those of the mother country; and, *with education,* equally qualified to occupy every useful and honorable station; and viewing the matter in this light, *we wish the youth of our communion to possess the means of preparing themselves for every office, either sacred or civil,* to which others may aspire." This document is worthy of most serious consideration, because it is addressed "in the name of the Synod, which has always taken a deep and lively interest in the prosperity of the Academy," to THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NOVA-SCOTIA; by the ministers of a sect to their flocks.

The memorable debate on the Aca-

demy, before the passage of the bill of 1832, is reported in the *Nova-Scotian*, 15th March, page 87. During the investigation, Dr McCulloch stated before the House of Assembly, that "*There was no theological class taught under the direction of the trustees, nor at the public expense; there is no mention of theology made in the Statutes.*" Some young men who had been studying in the Academy, wished to become qualified for the ministry—they applied to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova-Scotia—he was requested to instruct them, he did so gratuitously at his leisure.

The history of this period can be best closed by exhibiting an abstract of returns from trustees of Pictou Academy, from 1818 to June 7th, 1832.

1.	Legislative Grants,	£3400	0	0
2.	Subscriptions,	2961	8	11
	Total,	£6361	8	11

ANALYSIS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

1.	Pictou,	£1338	12	2
2.	Halifax,	597	13	0
3.	Scotland,	765	0	4
		£1901	5	6

The balance of L.1060 3s. 5d., was received from twenty-three other places in Nova-Scotia, New-Brunswick, and P. E. Island.

It does not appear that any fees, if charged, were ever collected; there is also no return of pupils.

EXPENDITURE.

1.	Land and Building,	£1640	0	0
2.	Philosophical Apparatus and Library,	923	0	0
3.	Incidental Charges,	180	0	0
4.	Dr McCulloch and Assistant's Salary pd.,	4527	4	0
5.	Expenses to Britain,	152	7	7½
6.	Mr Blanchard's do do paid,	554	12	6
		£7977	4	1½

It is also shewn by a minute, of date 7th June, 1832, that the trustees owed at that date, to Mr Colin McKay, money borrowed in 1823, with interest due, L.518 15s.; to the Fire Insurance Co., L.187 13s. 6d.; balance due on money borrowed for Mr Blanchard, which does not appear to be included in the L.554 12s. 6d., paid him; to Dr McCulloch, balances on salary due, L.246 17s. 7d.; to Mr M. McCulloch do. do. do. L.315 18s. 2d., not included in the sums charged above; lastly, to Mr S. Lowry of Newcastle, L.320, being money advanced by him to Mr Blanchard, and included in the charge of L.554 12s. 3d. Total amount owed by the trustees, L.1589 4s. 3d. There appeared to the credit of trustees, L.300, in the provincial treasury, being part of the legislative grant of 1831; and L.200, being the portion of the legislative grant for the half-year ending 1st July next, ensuing—total L.500, making the actual balance against the trustees, L.1089 4s. 3d.

In the Treasurer's account there is a charge,—cash paid for books in 1818, £133 6s. 8d.; and again, in 1820, a like charge of £180.

At the last meeting of the Board, on 7th June, 1832, when the accounts were arranged, there were present, Dr McCulloch, Messrs Duncan Ross, Robson, Smith, Matheson, Patterson, McLean, Grant, and McKinlay; and the following minute appears:—

"The museum in the Academy is the property of Dr McCulloch solely; the Theological library belongs to the Presbyterian Church of Nova-Scotia, and is deposited in the building, merely in the meantime; various articles belonging to the Philosophical apparatus, a list of which is afterwards to be made out, are the property of Dr McCulloch."

The petitions presented annually by the trustees, were supported by the Presbyterian Church of N. Scotia; there are on the file, records of the meetings of the individual congregations, at which resolutions were adopted in accordance with the petitions, and forwarded to the county members, for their instruction and guidance.

PICTOU ACADEMY UNDER THE ACT OF 1832.

It has been already stated that the new Academy Act, which met the approbation of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia, opened up every office and department to "*persons of all denominations of Christians, without distinction of sect;*" introduced, in addition to the higher branches formerly taught, "all the elementary branches usually taught in grammar schools;" and also contained a restrictive clause in reference to the teaching of Divinity.

It may be well to state that the new Board consisted of Dr Archibald, Revds. Dr McCulloch, Robson, Ross and McKinlay, and Messrs Grant and Dickson, from the former trustees; and the Right Rev. Dr Fraser, Bishop of Tannen, the Revds. Messrs McKenzie, Fraser and McCrae, and Mr David Crichton, trustees named in the Act.

With the exception of the Bishop, who sent a letter of apology, these gentlemen met in the Academy, and as would appear from the minute of 2nd July, 1832, engaged in the most amicable spirit to make the necessary arrangements for reorganizing the institution in conformity with the new Act.

It is matter of regret that in little more than a year, owing to misunderstandings which had arisen, the administrator of the government had to appoint a visitor, in compliance with the unanimous wish of the Board; and it appears from the minutes that the visitor, Judge Sawers, met the trustees on the 30th Oct., 1833, and "entered on the consideration of the state of the Academy."

The visitation resulted in no practical benefit to the Academy, cordiality never again found a place at the Board, and in 1836 Dr McCulloch presented a petition to the legislature, wherein he used the following language: "And your petitioner would also suggest that in his opinion, its present circumstances do not afford a probability, that under existing arrangements, it can ever contain the means of a regular education, or even continue in existence."

In 1838, it was proposed to translate Dr McCulloch to Halifax, and take with him L.200 of the grant to Pictou Academy. Dr McCulloch and his friends were in favor of the proposition; it was opposed by Mr McKenzie and his friends —in order to insure the passage of the bill, Dr McCulloch and his friends, met at the house of Mr Robert McKay, in Pictou, on the 24th March, and delegated Mr A. P. Ross, to proceed to Halifax as their advocate before the Council. Mr Ross was furnished with a brief, which among other memorandums for his guidance, contained one to this effect,—The Rev. D. A. Fraser, having on the previous session, presented a petition to the Assembly, affirming that it was a conscientious belief, "that the anxiety of the old trustees, originated chiefly in a desire to have it converted into *a sectarian institution for the purpose of training up young men to the duties and calling of Antiburgher clergymen*—that this was *its original design*, and was openly avowed by the Rev. Dr McCulloch, the Principal of the Academy." In denial and explanation, Mr Ross is requested to produce to the Council, the statements of Dr McCulloch, as reported in the *Nova Scotian*, and already referred to.

The Legislature was induced to comply with the solicitations of Dr McCulloch and his friends, and passed a bill translating him to Halifax. The Academy may be said to have existed as a sort of grammar school from 1838 to to 1842, when the provincial allowance ceased.

In the session of 1842 the Rev. James Ross, then one of the trustees, Mr Thomas Dickson and Mr Blackadar retraced before the committee on education, "the history of the Pictou Academy" and the differences that have been so often discussed in this house, and which the committee see but little wisdom or utility in reviving. One thing is certain, that the experiment of a cordial union tried in 1832, and ratified by a grant of L.400 a year *has signally failed.*" The report goes on to say that it would be matter of reproach to its friends, and regret to the Legislature, if it were permitted to languish and die; that there were grave objections to any endowment *which would impress upon it a sectarian character;* that it was not likely that any attempt would be made to take it from those in trust, *and transfer the pro-*

perty to others without their consent; that the Legislative grant which was about to expire, if renewed, would be on conditions to prevent any one body *from its exclusive participation in it*; that therefore the committee were delighted to learn that the leading men in the County of Pictou had united in a desire to establish an institution on which *all* might unite.

The projected "Union Academy" failed; no grant was passed; the Academy lingered on till the 1st August, 1844, when the doors were closed, and on the 9th January, 1845, in compliance with the command of His Excellency, the secretary of the Academy sent in a report which shews that "at present no system of education is conducted. There is consequently no report to be made in relation to salaries, fees, classes, or students." Before the Academy was closed the trustees were enabled by a grant of L.600, and subscriptions amounting to L.431 19s. 3d. to pay off the balance of their debt.

The accompanying table will furnish all other desirable information on the state of the Academy from July, 1832, till August, 1843. It is well to note, that there is included in the subscriptions for 1834, a loan of L.100 from McCara's estate, and in those of 1840, there is acknowledged to have been received from the Rev. James Ross, the sum of L.200, supposed from the same source. Within this period five students attended Natural Philosophy.*

* For Table see last page.

PICTOU ACADEMY UNDER THE PRESENT ACT.

The "Union Academy" scheme having fallen through, from the Legislature declining to pass the necessary enactment, the doors of the Academy were soon after closed, the residuary Teacher, Mr Michael McCulloch, having removed to the Yarmouth Academy. When there remained nothing but the building in a state of dilapidation; a philosophical apparatus becoming valueless from neglect and disuse, and an extensive library mouldering on the shelves, the inhabitants of Pictou began to feel the want of a suitable educational establishment, and several who felt themselves more deeply interested, made proposals towards a reorganization of the Pictou Academy. Negociations were entered into with the then Board of Trustees, and it was found that there would be no difficulty in that quarter; the position in which the Trustees at that time found themselves will be best understood by a speech of the Rev James Ross, delivered by that Gentleman, before the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of N. S., at New Glasgow, in July 1845, as follows:—

"Complaints have been made of the former Trustees of the Pictou Academy resigning. But the state of the matter had just been this, that the institution was in that state, that the congregations in this quarter and even those which had been active in behalf of it, were heartily sick of it, and urged the giving up of the property in favor of any scheme that offered the slightest prospect of being successful."

After several preliminary meetings, and some necessary correspondence with persons at a distance, the Sheriff on requisition, called a meeting of the inhabitants of the county. The result was one of the largest and at the same time perhaps the most harmonious assemblies ever convened in the Pictou Court House. The resolutions were put *seriatim* and discussed gravely and earnestly, but temperately, by men representing all parties, interests, and seeth in the county, and were passed unanimously. And on these resolutions the present Act was passed with the expressed sanction of the late Board of trustees. But let the trustees speak for themselves.

(COPY)

Pictou, 6th March, 1854.

GENTLEMEN:—We the undersigned, trustees of the Pictou Academy, having been made acquainted with the result of the public meetings lately held in Pictou, in reference to the subject of education, but more particularly as regards the said institution, and having had an opportunity of examining resolutions passed at the said meetings, beg leave through you to intimate to the

General Assembly of the Province now convened, our willingness to resign, or yield up our trust in the said Institution, if the Legislature shall be pleased to pass an Act to carry out *the principles embodied in those resolutions*. This resignation in accordance with the expressed wishes and feelings of the community *we cheerfully tender, clogged with no conditions save that the true spirit and principles of the union as expressed in the resolutions*, shall on faithfully acted upon in passing the necessary enactments.

In conclusion, we have to say that the object in view has our best wishes, and we trust that guided by a sincere desire of making the institution what it ought to be, the future trustees may be the means of giving to the youth of the country the inestimable blessings of sound, useful and liberal education.

We have the honor to be,
Your Most Obt. Servants,
THOMAS DICKSON,
JAMES CARMICHAEL,
JOHN McKINLAY,
JAMES ROSS,
DAVID CRICHTON,
GEORGE SMITH,
S. G. W. ARCHIBALD.

To G. R. Young and John Holmes Esqrs. Members for County of Pictou.

Bishop Fraser resigned in the following letter.

Antigonish, 24th Feby. 1845.

DEAR SIR.—I have just received your letter of the 20th inst. and in reply beg to state, that I some years ago offered to resign my trust in the Pictou Academy; and permit me to assure you, that I again most cheerfully do so, with the most earnest and fervent wishes for the benefit of the Institution.

I am Your most Obt. Servant,
WM. FRASER, Ep. Halifaxiensis.

Wm. J. Anderson, Esq.

The trustees having thus voluntarily relinquished their trust, the legislature, on the 14th April, 1845, passed the act carrying out "*the true spirit and principles of the union, as expressed in the Resolutions*;" and shortly afterwards, the new Board met, and set energetically to work to repair the building, and make arrangements for organizing the departments, and procuring teachers.

The arrangement of the departments was settled after mature deliberation, with the assistance of the Revds Messrs McKinlay, James Ross and Elliott, the trustees adhering very closely to a written programme furnished by the Rev. James Ross, who referred to the elementary branches as follows: "The Lower Branch—*it is the most important—it is the most laborious—it is that on which success principally depends.*"

Very shortly after the new Board had entered on business, the Rev. Mr McKinlay directed their attention to the minute of the late Board in reference to the theological library, &c., &c. It was found that no distinction had been made in placing the books on the shelves; but the trustees being desirous of meeting the wishes of the donor whom Mr McKinlay acted, directed their Secretary, Dr Anderson, to [illegible] upon the library, and for a portion of two days the Rev. Messrs. McKinlay and Ross were left in possession of the library, and were thus afforded an opportunity of making a selection without reserve.

Dr Anderson subsequently delivered to the agent of the family of Dr McCulloch everything claimed by them.

It will be unnecessary to say anything further of the progress of the Academy under the present trust, but to refer to the subjoined abstract. They found the building in a state of dilapidation; they expended nearly L.250 in repairs and necessary alterations. Out of their surplus funds they also purchased and improved a lot of land and cottage; which fact was duly reported to His Excellency and published for the information of the public. It was hoped that this would have been a permanent investment, for the benefit of the Academy, but circumstances rendering it necessary, L.100 were resumed last year, the trustees giving a mortgage on their property to that extent.

The trustees named in the resolutions of the county meeting, and created by the Act of the Legislature, were chosen unanimously. In 1848 another public meeting similarly expressed continued confidence in the trustees, and approbation of the principles on which the Academy had been established—and in 1849, a like vote of a county meeting was obtained. In 1850 the petition of the trustees to the Legislature was backed by the recommendations of 43 out of 48 Justices who attended the Sessions.

The trustees when called upon, or if

they shall deem it expedient to lay down made to the library and apparatus; and
the trust, will have the satisfaction of with a very efficient and approved sys-
knowing, that they leave the property tem of Education in operation.
in good repair; with valuable additions

ABSTRACT

OF RETURNS FROM TRUSTEES OF PICTOU ACADEMY, FROM MAY 1845 TO MAY 1854.

	Year.	NO. OF PUPILS.			AMOUNT OF FEES.		Legislative Annual Grants	Subscriptions Bequests Donations &c.	SALARIES OF TEACHERS			Commissions
		Higher	Lower	Free	Higher Departme't	Lower Departme't			Third or Higher	Second	First or Lower	
1	1846		50	5		£49 4	£250	£200			£76 15 9	
2	1847	52	61	5	£110 18 10½	73 15 4	250	250	£186 11 8	£162 8	105 6 8	
3	1848	49	64	9	83 6 6	56 18 5	250	117	184 3 4	159 3 4	112 15 3	
4	1849	42	53	10	75 11	67 2 6	250	64 5	182 18 3	164 6	120	
5	1850	15	50	9	37 16	55 11 6	250		vacant	167 6 4	150 9	
6	1851	47	84	9	58 1	67 9	250	2 11 3½	146 10 7	157 9 4	148 10 11	
7	1852	20	62	7	45 6 6	75 4 11	250		157 2 6	155 15	138 11 4	
8	1853	17	43	8	33 16 1	33 1 3	250	80 5	125	125	125	
9	1854	32	52	12	42 1	46 15 9	250		125	50	125	
		274	469	74	£486 16 11½	£524 - 11	£2250	£664 1 3½	£1107 6 4	£1141 8	£1102	8
		469			524 4 11					1107 6 4		
										1102 8		
	Total,	743			£1011 1 10½		£2250	£664 1 3½		£3350 15		

2250
326 1 1 10
664 1 1 3
392 5 3 1
335 0 15 0
£.574 6 1

ABSTRACT

OF RETURNS FROM THE TRUSTEES OF *PICTOU ACADEMY*, FROM 1832 TO 1843.

Year.	NO. OF PUPILS.			AMOUNT OF FEES.		LEGISLATIVE GRANTS		Subscription	SALARIES OF TEACHERS.			Commissions paid to Treasurer.
	Higher 1. Dep't	Lower 2. Dep't	Free Schl'rs 3.	Higher	Lower	Annual	Special		Dr McCulloch 1.	M. McCulloch 2.	Mr Blanchard Mr McDonald Mr McNaughton 3.	
1 1833	16	39		£30 10	£48 0 8	£600	£490	£ 64 5 0	£250	£150	£100	£11 18
2 1834	11	51		37 11 5	47 0 10	400		207 1 1	250	150	100	8 6
3 1835	12	32		28 15	41 8 0	400		33 15 9	250	150	100	5
4 1836	5	21		12 15	14 16 6	400		4 2 3	250	150	100	5
5 1837	9	18		10 10	13 11 6	400		11 2 6	250	150	100	5
6 1838	5	13		3 7 6	10 0 0	400		0 0 0	250	150	100	5
7 1839	6	8		5 5	9 3 4	250		0 0 0	62 10	150	100	5
8 1840		26			22 14 5	200	233	431 19 8		150		9 7 6
9 1841		70			111 11 7	200	233			150	75	5 10
10 1842		63			69 17 9	200	233			150	75	5 10
11 1843		50			18 15 0	100				75	37 10	28 10
	64	391		£128 13 11	£406 19 7	£3550	£1189	£752 6 3	£1562 10	£1575	£887 10	£94 1 6
		64		406 19 7		1189			1575			
									887 10			
Total,		455		£535 13 6		£4739		£752 6 3	£4025			£94 1 6